

ADOPTION OF EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW (EA/EIS)

Part I. Proposed Action Description

Applicant/Contact Name & Address: USA, Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management – 1005 Selway Drive, Dillon, MT 59725-8449

Type of Action: Application to Change a Water Right – Additional Stock Tanks

Location Affected by Action: Sections 1, 11, 12, and 13 T09S R10W, Beaverhead County

Narrative Summary of Proposed Action: The Applicant proposes to add a point of diversion as well as one stock tank to the existing stock watering system for Statement of Claim 41B 30139637. Water for the stock tank will be diverted by a collection box in Gallagher Creek (located at SWNE Sec. 11, T09S, R10W) and conveyed 0.9 miles by a gravity-fed 1.25" surface pipeline. The stock tank's proposed place of use is located in the SWNWNW of Sec. 1, T09S, R10W, and the tank will be fitted with a float valve to prevent overflow. The Applicant plans to continue existing use for livestock direct from source while the 140 animal units (AU) are grazing in the South pasture of the Gallagher Grazing Allotment. Their proposed usage schedule in the South pasture is for up to 35 days per year with every fourth year rested. The new stock tank will supply the same 140 AU while they are grazing in the North pasture of the Gallagher Grazing Allotment (up to 35 days per year with every fourth year rested). Two out of every four years the animals will use both the North and South pastures, for a proposed usage schedule of up to 70 days during the year-round historic period of use, which is not proposed for change under this change application. The proposed flow rate for the new diversion is 5.35 GPM, as determined by the Applicant using the Hazen-Williams equation. The Claim will retain its year-round period of diversion and the maximum diverted and consumed volume for stock usage will remain 4.7 AF.

Part II. Existing Environmental Review Information

Title: Red Rock/Lima Watershed Environmental Analysis, Environmental Assessment DOI-BLM-MT-B050-2018-0009-EA

Publication Date: 5/22/2018

Lead Agency: Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management

Location Where Interested Parties Can View or Obtain the Document:

https://eplanning.blm.gov/public_projects/nepa/95669/145612/179321/Red_Rock_Lima_EA.pdf

Part III. Criteria for Adopting Existing Environmental Review

- ☒ Yes ☐ No Does the existing environmental review cover an action paralleling or closely related to the proposed action?
- ☒ Yes ☐ No Is the information in the existing environmental review accurate and clearly presented?
- ☒ Yes ☐ No Is the information in the existing environmental review applicable to the action being considered?
- ☒ Yes ☐ No Were all appropriate Agencies consulted during preparation of the existing environmental review?
- ☒ Yes ☐ No Were alternatives to the proposed action evaluated as part of the existing environmental review effort?
- ☒ Yes ☐ No Have all of the impacts of the proposed action been accurately identified as part of the existing environmental review?
- ☒ Yes ☐ No If the existing environmental review identifies any significant impacts as a result of the proposed action, will they be mitigated below the level of significance?

Part IV. Conclusion

If the answers to ALL of the questions listed above are "Yes", the existing environmental review can be considered sufficient to satisfy DNRC's MEPA review responsibilities.

Yes___ No X Based on the criteria evaluated in the existing EA, is an EIS required?

Name: Mallory Scharf

Title: Water Resource Specialist

Date: 10/26/2021

Signature:


